

**January 12, 2015 Monthly Meeting  
USDA Service Center  
Board meeting 3:00 pm**

Pfeifer called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

**Supervisors present:** Jim Pfeifer, Ron Johnson, and Tom Wolles

**Absent:** Jeff Oyen, Jim Jackson, Gordon Heber, and Greg Schneiders

**Others present:** John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Deron Ruesch, Barry Berg, Rick Lehman and Brian Top

**Agenda:** Handed out at meeting. MSP to approve by Johnson and Wolles. All ayes.

**Minutes of December meeting:** Handed out. MSP to approve by Wolles and Johnson. All ayes.

**Treasurer's report:** Handed out at meeting. MSP to approve by Johnson and Wolles. All ayes.

**Bills:** No current bills.

**Accounts Receivable:** Reviewed at meeting.

**Activities Reports:**

**NRCS activity report by Deron Ruesch:**

***WETLANDS:***

Our current backlog is about 38 outstanding certified wetland determination requests. One potential wetland violation is being worked on.

***CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):***

6 new applications have been taken.

***CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):***

We are working with 8 producers to issue their 2014 payments. These need to be issued by March 6<sup>th</sup>. Contract reviews must be completed on 12 existing contracts by March 31<sup>st</sup>. 4 new applications have been received for 2015.

***ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):***

31 applications have been received for this batching period. Eligible applications will be screened and ranked by March 6<sup>th</sup>. Only a few 2014 payments need to be made yet.

***AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP):***

No new update

**S-RAM through Big Sioux Watershed Project Report: Barry Berg**

RCPA approval date will occur on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Service Report (bio-solids, tree planting, grass planting, etc.)**

Will be meeting with the city regarding this year's work. 12 acres are paid up for tree planting (25-30 acres total planned). 250 acres of general seeding planned. 60 acres of CRP seeding planned. Some terrace seeding will also occur. Bareroot tree order deadline – March 6<sup>th</sup>. Machine plant deadline – March 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **2. Equipment Review (broadcast seeder, 10 ft. drill)**

Jim and John have looked into options. A discussion was held about seed slingers. Jim presented a price quote on a new 10 ft. drill. The current drill has been used for 9 years and could be fixed up to be in usable shape. The Board members will stop at Pfeifer Implement and look at the drill.

### **3. Contribution Agreement**

One reimbursement request has been sent in and payment will be coming soon. Another request is ready to be sent in.

### **4. Internship**

Information was presented to the Board by John, who has visited with SDSU. Tom has a meeting in Brookings, so will check further with SDSU concerning an internship opportunity.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. 2015 SDACD Membership Investment**

\$900 is the initial investment requested for 2015, plus \$0.0025/per tree planted (for tree research - \$20.00 minimum), plus \$25.00 contribution for the auxiliary. MSP to approve contributing \$950.00 (\$900.00 plus \$50.00 for tree research) by Johnson and Wolles. All ayes.

### **2. Workers' Compensation Information**

Per new guidelines, in order for volunteers to be covered under our worker's comp. umbrella policy at any event that we sponsor or co-sponsor, a list of the volunteers needs to be approved at a board meeting prior to the event.

### **3. Sioux Empire Farm Show – Jan. 28 – 30**

John and Rick will participate in the Thursday weigh-in event.

### **4. Employee Pay Review (seasonal and regular)**

This issue will be brought up again next month for the whole board to consider.

### **5. New Slate of Officers for Board**

Motion was presented to appoint - Ron Johnson, President; Tom Wolles, Vice-President; John Parker, Secretary/Treasurer. MSP to approve by Johnson and Wolles. All ayes.

## **CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS**

None

## **OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **1. Correspondence**

#### **a. SDPAA Liability Insurance Contract**

Insurance contact list was updated and a new contract to sign.

#### **b. Grant Notification**

State Conservation Commission approved the Resource Technician Project Grant for the period of 7/01/15 through 6/30/16.

MSP to adjourn at 5:05 pm by Pfeifer and Wolles. All ayes.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, February 9, 2015 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center**

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Employee